



The First 5 Yolo Children and Families Commission met on the 10th day of May, 2023 at Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library, Blanchard Room, 315 E. 14th Street, Davis, CA 95616

Commissioners in Attendance:

Jim Provenza, Anna Domek, Karleen Jakowski, Jenn Rexroad, Garth Lewis, Heidi Kellison, Nichole Arnold, Lucas Frerichs

Staff in Attendance:

Gina Daleiden, Victoria Zimmerle, Rachel McFarland, Melina Ortigas

Public in Attendance:

Scott Love, Svetlana Harmon, and Emily Ault

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

Item #1: Call to order

Vice Chair N. Arnold called the meeting to order at: **3:06 pm**.

Item #2: Welcome and Introduction of New District 1 Commissioner

N. Arnold introduced the new District 1 Commissioner, Anna Domek and welcomed her to the Commission. A. Domek introduced herself to Commissioners.

J. Provenza arrived at **3:10 pm**.

Item #3: Roll Call

V. Zimmerle took a voice roll call.

Absent: Sally Brown, Melissa Roberts

Late: Garth Lewis, Jim Provenza, Lucas Frerichs

Item #4: Consider Approval of Agenda

Item #5: Opportunity for Commissioners to state Conflict and Recusal

None.

Item #6: Public Comment

S. Love welcomed Commissioners to the Mary L. Stephen's Library noting the long standing partnership between Yolo County Library and First 5 Yolo. He also shared information about the upcoming Yolo Juneteenth Celebration, held at the UC Davis Conference Center on June 4, 2023 and thanked the Commission for sponsoring the event. The event is geared towards families and will have displays, food, and performances for all ages.

Item #7: Approve First 5 Yolo Commission Meeting Minutes from 03/08/23



Item #8: Receive Sponsorship Fund Allocations Report (Friends of Davis Public Library, Yolo Juneteenth Celebration)

Item #9: Accept Report on Quarter 3 Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Funded Partner Progress

Item #10: Approve \$43,750 Increase to Northern California Children’s Therapy Center’s and \$11,000 Increase to CommuniCare Health Center’s Help Me Grow Contracts effective April 1, 2023 and Funded by Mental Health Services Act

Approve consent agenda items 7-10.

Motion: H. Kellison **Second:** N. Arnold

Motion carried unanimously.

Item #11: Receive Presentation on Yolo County Library Children’s Services

G. Daleiden introduced Svetlana Harmon, the Children’s Librarian for Yolo County Library. S. Harmon presented on the library’s children’s services, including story times in Russian, Spanish, and English, for toddlers, preschoolers, grade schoolers, and families around Yolo County.

Yolo County Library is also distributing books in English and Spanish throughout the county for their Summer Reading Program, including children in rural areas. S. Harmon also shared the Library’s early learning kits, which include a health and nutrition kit for families and childcare providers, school readiness kits and story time kits, and the new Nature Explorer kit, with materials for children aged 0-8 to explore the outdoors.

S. Love noted that the bookmobile will also be distributing some of these early learning kits throughout Yolo County.

Commissioners asked questions and discussed.

G. Lewis arrived at **3:16 pm**.

Item #12: **Public Hearing:** Accept the First 5 California Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2021/2022

G. Daleiden noted that per Prop 10 Statute, each county First 5 Commission holds a public hearing, annually, to present the First 5 California Annual Report which covers the previous fiscal year. First 5 California continues to refine the Annual Report to better align the reporting of statewide efforts across all 58 county First 5 commissions.

Public Hearing opened at 3:26 pm.

H. Kellison provided public comment: “I value the chance to review First 5 California’s Annual Report and stay updated on the progress of First 5 efforts statewide, especially considering the ongoing decline in Proposition 10 revenue. As First 5 Yolo works to maximize our resources by shifting our focus towards leveraging non-Proposition 10 funding to meaningfully support First 5 California’s policy priorities, I would like to emphasize the importance of advocacy and urge First 5 California to address the growing funding shortfalls.”



Public Hearing closed at 3:27 pm.

Accept the First 5 California Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2021/2022.

Motion: G. Lewis **Second:** J. Rexroad

Ayes: A. Domek, G. Lewis, J. Rexroad, J. Provenza, N. Arnold, K. Jakowski

Nays: H. Kellison

Motion carried.

Item #13: Accept Report on Part 2 of Fiscal Half-Year 1, 2022/2023 Performance Measures

M. Ortigas presented an overview and highlights on program performance in the first six months of fiscal year 2022/2023.

- Help Me Grow continues to provide support to Yolo County children and families, led by partners Northern California Children’s Therapy Center, Yolo Crisis Nursery, and RISE, Inc.
- 597 children were provided with behavioral screening to identify children who need extra support
- Of those screened, the connection rate to additional services was 87%, compared to 3% of children statewide who are eligible to receive early intervention
- 13 caregivers were connected to behavioral health services at CommuniCare Health Centers through Help Me Grow In-home Therapy for Caregivers
- M. Ortigas noted the ongoing staffing shortages in these programs, and that Welcome Baby and HMG are closely connected programs that share some of the same resources

K. Jakowski noted that there are additional resources to connect children in foster care to the early intervention resources provided by HMG. G. Daleiden noted that the Mental Health Services Act the largest portion of Help Me Grow services and Help me Grow is the only specific investment within Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI), under MHSA, for children ages 0-5.

Commissioners asked questions and discussed.

Accept Report on Part 2 of Fiscal Half-Year 1, 2022/2023 Performance Measures.

Motion: H. Kellison **Second:** A. Domek

Motion carried unanimously.

Item #14: First 5 Yolo Childcare Recovery Package American Rescue Plan Act Project: Authorize Subaward Agreement to the City of Winters, up to \$122,000 and to Winters Joint Unified School District, up to \$40,500.

G. Daleiden provided an overview of the Childcare Recovery Package which includes smaller Infrastructure and Recovery Grants available to Childcare Providers across the County. Additionally, the Package includes up to two larger infrastructure grants to address needs in childcare deserts. Projects for both larger infrastructure grants have been identified to address childcare needs in the City of Winters which has historically been a childcare desert and whose needs were exacerbated by the



pandemic. The first an Agreement with the City of Winters to support the Winters Parent Nursery School to make improvements and enhancements to the facility to maintain the safety of children currently in care. The building is owned by the City of Winters and houses WPNS via a Joint Use Agreement. City of Winters will take their contract to the city council next Tuesday, 05/16/23 and it is expected to be approved.

The second is an agreement with the Winters Joint Unified School District to support its planned Child Development Center. Details of the project, including potential dedicated space for children and family serving providers such as Help Me Grow, etc. are still in development.

J. Provenza noted that the Board of Supervisors allocated \$1.3 million towards the Childcare ARP project.

K. Jakowski asked questions about City of Winters' contributions to this project and whether childcare slots would be added under the WPNS project. G. Daleiden noted that the City was providing administrative support and staff time on the project in-kind and, the City leases the building to Winters Parent Nursery School for an annual cost of one dollar. Additionally, while no new slots would be added under this project, the existing slots would be maintained and the site would not be in jeopardy of closure. K. Jakowski stressed the importance of retaining and increasing available childcare slots with the ARP funding for this project.

H. Kellison commended First 5 Yolo staff and J. Provenza for being proactive in addressing this lack of childcare, particularly as a result of the pandemic.

V. Zimmerle noted that both contract are retroactively effective to March 1, 2023.

Commissioners asked questions and discussed.

First 5 Yolo Childcare Recovery Package American Rescue Plan Act Project: Authorize Subaward Agreement to the City of Winters, up to \$122,000 and to Winters Joint Unified School District, up to \$40,500.

Motion: H. Kellison **Second:** N. Arnold

Motion carried unanimously.

Item #15: Authorize Contract to Yolo County Children's Alliance for Child Welfare Services Alternative Response Grant up to \$161,818 through June 30, 2024, effective May 1, 2023

G. Daleiden gave an overview of the Yolo County Alternative Response grant awarded to First 5 Yolo. The Alternative Response grant will fund an expansion of Healthy Families America Home Visiting under The CHILD Project: Road to Resilience (R2R). Yolo County Children's Alliance is the current provider of these services in R2R, and the only provider of Healthy Families America services in the County.

Authorize Contract to Yolo County Children's Alliance for Child Welfare Services Alternative Response Grant up to \$161,818 through June 30, 2024, effective May 1, 2023.



Motion: G. Lewis **Second:** N. Arnold

Motion carried unanimously.

Item #16: Accept Quarter 3 Fiscal Year 22-23 Revenue and Expenditure Year-to-Date Summary Report

V. Zimmerle presented highlights from the Q3 rev/exp report including:

- Proposed modifications to the current budget to reflect the contracts discussed in the previous item (The CHILD Project: Road to Resilience with Alternative Response funding) and an amendment from Yolo County Mental Health Services Act to expand and maintain Help Me Grow services
- Revenue and Expenditure projections at the close of the fiscal year have been updated as more information has become available. Revenues and Program variances related to unspent grant funds will be rolled over into next Fiscal Year and grant funds are expected to be fully expended prior to their respective agreement close dates
- The planned deficit for the year is projected to be less than budgeted, a positive. The projected ending fund balance includes all reserve funds. Reserves and target amounts will be reconsidered through current Long Term Financial Plan development and staff will make their recommendation for these reserves at the June Commission meeting.

L. Frerichs arrived **3:55 pm**.

K. Jakowski shared updates on the current Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) 3-year plan development, provided an overview of how MHSA is funded, and updated Commissioners on potential changes being considered by the State. Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) and F5Y have shared funding for Help Me Grow (HMG) and First 5 Yolo has requested an increase in MHSA funding in the coming cycle in light of the accelerated decline in Prop 10 funding as a result of Prop 31. While the County is hopeful MHSA receipts and projections will support the increase in funding for HMG, the impact of the tax deadline extension, anticipated economic downturn and pending actions at the State may result in fewer dollars available for local MHSA funding. Yolo County staff hope to have allocations for MHSA programs in the weeks ahead. K. Jakowski noted that HHSA remains hopeful that funding will be maintained for local programs like HMG.

L. Frerichs provided clarification of how, under this proposed reform, funds for mental health may be shifted to support homelessness and housing at the State level impacting local allocations.

G. Daleiden noted that First 5 California is working on plans to make sure that funding for early childhood (0-5) development programs is secured, including prevention and early intervention programs.

Accept Quarter 3 Fiscal Year 22-23 Revenue and Expenditure Year-to-Date Summary Report

Motion: J. Rexroad **Second:** H. Kellison

Motion carried unanimously.

Item #17: Receive Strategic Planning Update and Review Draft Components



G. Daleiden provided an update on the current status of the strategic planning process and presented draft components of the plan. First 5 Yolo’s consultant, Rafael Gomez, has been meeting with partners as well as First 5 Yolo staff and Commissioners to create this draft. G. Daleiden noted the core priorities of First 5 as outlined by Prop 10 remain consistent, and that certain components of the strategic plan are required by Prop 10. These core components will be largely consistent with the prior Strategic Plan and will be updated and included when the Commission adopts the final Plan in June.

G. Daleiden also provided the following highlights from community listening sessions which were facilitated by the Consultant and, intentionally, not attended by First 5 Yolo staff or Commissioners.):

- Strong sentiment that behavioral health needs have increased: the pandemic has impacted the emotional and behavioral health of children
- Providers talked about isolation and stress caused by pandemic
- Increase in substance use issues in families and families who have delayed treatment or have not sought treatment
- Concrete supports (diapers, pack and plays, etc.) are still widely needed throughout the County
- Educators noted the need to address basics needs first
- Attendees noted the necessity of early intervention to prevent crises downstream (stress, illness, financial troubles)
- Providers noted the community workforce shortage and the difficulty in finding and retaining staff
 - o G. Daleiden noted that F5Y staff are increasingly needed to support direct service partners because of staffing challenges, and that F5Y staff are largely at capacity.
- Partners cited “initiative fatigue” and the stress of meeting initiative goals handed down by the State and/or County
- Participants also affirmed the value of F5Y as a facilitator to local providers, and noted appreciation for F5Y’s ability to braid funding into single contracts to CBO.
- Participates also shared a desire to participate, as a community, in planning sessions for the county/for other programs
- Community members in the early learning group session expressed the desire for an agency or group to fill a clearinghouse role for incoming service staff and childcare providers, and to develop a shared group of community priorities and strategies

In planning sessions with staff and commissioners, highlights included:

- Increased disparities in certain communities around Yolo County
- Need for increase in behavioral health services
- Need for linking heavily siloed programs and services
- Need for F5Y to act not only as a funder but also a facilitator for programs
- Commission remains committed to acting as an advocate for these programs and their funding needs

G. Daleiden asked for comments and questions from Commissioners on the current draft components.

J. Provenza noted that various health services at the county overlap with F5Y initiatives and suggested that F5Y could be a coordinator or convener for all services in the county that serve children aged 0-5. G.



Daleiden asked for clarification on how Commissioners wanted to word this in the strategic plan. J. Provenza suggested: “for 0-5, First 5 should be the primary convener, in cooperation with other agencies and providers, for all resources and programs in Yolo County.” K. Jakowski agreed that First 5 Yolo is well positioned to fill this role as coordinator in the county but that there will be additional work needed to build consensus in the community.

G. Daleiden noted that the Commission is intended to help provide coordination between government agencies and that outreach to multiple community agencies is not normally a sustained effort, and that the resources provided by government agencies are crucial and not able to be covered by First 5 Yolo (e.g., YCOE and education).

J. Rexroad noted that F5Y may coordinate but that language in the strategic plan should be inclusive of partners, not exclusive.

H. Kellison suggested pulling equity from the section “Equity and Whole Child Approach,” noting that other sections are single issue, and that Equity is an important topic that should be a standalone or overarching objective. K. Jakowski noted that HHSA’s five-year improvement plan posed equity as an issue that is embedded in every strategy. G. Daleiden suggested including Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (REDI) as a guiding principle, rather than an objective, which would align F5Y’s plan with First 5 California, which includes REDI in its guiding principles.

Commissioners will send further comments, ideas, and edits before the next Commission meeting in June.

Item #18: Review Working Assumptions for the First 5 Yolo Fiscal Year 2023/2024-2027/2028 Long-Term Financial Plan

V. Zimmerle provided a high-level review of assumptions and noted that the proposed assumptions are inclusive of current, best available information. Per F5Y process, the Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) will be reviewed by the Commission on an annual basis should any updates be required. V. Zimmerle briefed Commissioners on the purpose of the LTFP as a guiding document that neither binds nor commits the Commission to a course of action, as does an annual budget.

Commissioners discussed and asked questions noting the challenges of developing a 5-year fiscal plan in the face of economic uncertainty, unfolding impacts of legislation, and pending grant opportunities.

K. Jakowski noted that May is Mental Health Awareness month.

K. Jakowski left at **4:55 pm**.

Item #19: Review Proposed Funding Plan FY23/24

G. Daleiden provided an overview of the proposed program funding for Fiscal Year 2023-2024, noting the figures provided are best estimates for the upcoming fiscal year for each of F5Y’s major initiatives, as information on pending grants continues to unfold. V. Zimmerle noted that this document will be in the strategic plan and is inclusive of all expenditures related to each initiative including staff time, contracts, F5Y administered program expenses, etc. In June, staff will provide a final Funding Plan taking into account any new information. Additionally, for several multi-year programs, unexpended program funds



for the current fiscal year may be rolled over into the coming fiscal year. The exact roll over amounts will not be known until after the close of the fiscal year and are not included in the proposed Funding Plan.

Item #20: Executive Director Report

G. Daleiden briefed the Commission on the following:

- The Deputy Director and Accounting and Office Support Specialist received step increases as a result positive performance reviews
- First 5 Yolo has entered into a small contract with Chapman Consulting to support the agency as it prepares to begin billing for MediCal services
- County CalWORKs' and First 5 Yolo's application for the CalWORKs Home Visiting Program was approved by the State for implementation in Fiscal Year 2023-2024. CalWORKs Home Visiting Program funds will be used to expand The CHILD Project: Road to Resilience and implement a new program, ParentChild+.
- First 5 Yolo has a pending request for county cannabis tax funding to support The CHILD Project: Road to Resilience. Requested funds will help stabilize the program through declining Prop 10 revenue.
- G. Daleiden will be presenting to the Board of Supervisors on May 23, 2023 on the coming new Strategic Plan.
- The First 5 CA IMPACT Legacy RFA has been released by First 5 CA. Staff are reviewing the RFA to prepare the Commission's response. Given the delay in RFA release from First 5 CA, a funding delay is anticipated which will result in a gap in IMPACT services.

No questions or comments.

Item # 21: Commissioner Reports

L. Frerichs expressed his support and gratitude for the pending work with the City of Winters and Winters Joint Unified School District to stabilize and expand access to childcare in Winters.

Item #22: Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at **5:04 pm**.

Next Commission Meeting scheduled:

June 14, 2023

International House

10 College Park, Davis, CA 95616